

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Ichiro TAKEDA et al. ) MAIL STOP – PCT/US  
Application No.: Unassigned )  
[Corresponds to PCT/JP2003/015866) )  
International Filing Date: November 12, 2003 )  
For: LIQUID FILLING METHOD AND )  
APPARATUS )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the subject application as follows: